

around it and you were trying to do a family budget, and let us assume you have to cut spending, as we have to cut it in this body. Here is the big difference between the two sides, here is the big difference: We do not want to take money from the children in Head Start education and college, we do not want to do that, and we do not want to take grandma and grandpa's money sitting at that table so we can send \$20,000 to the rich uncle who lives in Chicago that makes half a million dollars. That is what this budget fight is about.

Now, they are going to say, oh, but the rich uncle who lives in Chicago is the guy who creates the jobs, so he has to get the money. But that is bottom line what this is about.

We are saying, this is not the time to send a present to the rich uncle. I think at every kitchen table in America when times are tough you try to hold the children harmless so they can get their education, they can get their nutrition in the school lunch program, and they have a chance to go to college, because they are the future. You try as long as possible and as hard as possible to hold the seniors harmless, because they have not caused this. But this is just like your budget, only bigger, by a magnitude of gazillions of dollars, and the thing is, who pays?

The gentleman from New York is going to have a very eloquent session on this, talking about education. People do not know how badly we have hurt education. In my State alone, the estimate for the increase of 9th to 12th graders in the next few years is almost 28 percent. Twenty-eight percent more kids are going to be hitting those senior high schools. So the Federal Government is backing away from all sorts of programs, plus it zeroed out summer jobs for those kids, and it did all sorts of other things that is going to impact their future.

So this is what it is about. People know they cannot get enough votes here to override a veto, so they have to take this debt ceiling thing, the thing that guarantees our money, the thing that guarantees the bonds of this Nation, the thing that guarantees the full faith and credit of this Nation, and hold it hostage and say, we will not lift the ceiling unless you let us have our way so we can take money from the little kids and money from grandma and grandpa and send it to the rich uncle in Chicago. Hey, if you think that is a good plan, you have to be really happy, that is what is going on. But when you get behind everything else, that is exactly what is happening here. So try and keep that in mind.

I must also say, this being the 75th anniversary of women having had the right to vote, this has been a very hard week for me in this body. We have seen all sorts of things change, and you would wonder if women could vote at all.

We have seen charts being allowed on this floor that were not medically certified, that were inaccurate, that should never have been here and that

were never here before, but suddenly the rules are going to allow that. We have seen the rules expanded for the other side so that they can talk; we have seen women's health and women's lives being taken away as a reason for doctors to treat them. Is that not amazing?

So I really hope that the women of America start waking up, and the men too, that are really understanding this.

We heard the debate about whether the nonprofits should be able to lobby here. Well, I want to tell you, let me tell you who is lobbying here, and that is the military industrial complex. That is why you have \$8 billion worth of B-2 bombers that nobody wants and all sorts of add-ons to the defense bill. They can do it and they are doing it with 100 percent Federal money, because a lot of them work in companies where all their money is Federal money. Nobody wants to turn them off. But they are so afraid that the senior citizens may come in here and talk about Medicare cuts or the Girl Scouts might come and talk about what happens if they lose some of the money in jobs programs for the summer, or the schools and teachers come in and talk about Head Start or what happens if we cut back, that those people must be gagged.

Mr. GUNDERSON. Mr. Chairman, preserving the right to object.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair can only entertain an even-handed request.

The gentleman from California has 3 minutes remaining of his time. If there is an extension of that time, the time must be equal on each side.

The gentleman from California has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. CLAY].

□ 1530

So we gag them. But when I offer my amendment to say, OK, if you are going to gag them, we ought to gag the defense contractors, no, we do not do that.

These are not American priorities that I know unless this is a different America than the one I know. I hope we find some way to break through the clutter and noise and try to bring to people what these real issues are, and people get engaged in this.

Government is not the hokey-pokey. You cannot just put your hand in or your foot in. You have got to put your whole self in, understand the issues, and start working to make a difference or you are going to be awakened in a couple of years and wonder what happened.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. ISTOOK] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. ISTOOK addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. KIM] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. KIM addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. SMITH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. SMITH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

PRESIDENT UNWILLING TO LEAD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. RIGGS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, throughout our history Americans have looked to their President for leadership in meeting the challenges and crises we as a country have faced. George Washington led us through the birth of our Nation, Abraham Lincoln preserved the Union and freed the slaves, Franklin Roosevelt led us out of the Great Depression and into victory in World War II, and Ronald Reagan faced a challenge of double-digit interest rates and double-digit inflation and gave us the greatest peacetime economic expansion in history while bringing about the collapse of communism.

But today, as we face the challenge of finally getting America's fiscal house in order and balancing the budget for the first time in 26 years, we see a President who is not willing to lead. In fact, we see a President who has abdicated his responsibility to lead just when the value of personal responsibility is undergoing a revival in America. Instead of submitting a balanced budget of his own to offer as an alternative to the Republican budget, President Clinton proposed a phony budget that did not balance at all.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, CBO, the budget office that President Clinton said we should all go by, says the President's budget leaves us with a \$209 billion deficit in the year 2005, a bigger deficit than we have today. In fact, have a little chart that shows the budget deficit growing under the President's so-called balanced budget plan from \$196 billion today in fiscal year 1996 to \$209 billion in fiscal year 2005.

The President's so-called balanced budget is such a joke not a single Democrat would even vote for it. Indeed, when Republican Senators HATCH and SANTORUM offered the President's budget in the Senate, the Senate defeated it by a vote of 96 to 0.

Instead of submitting a plan to save Medicare, which his own Medicare trustees said would be bankrupt in 7 years, President Clinton has ignored the problem, refused to work with us in Congress, the majority party, anyway,

to save Medicare, and has engaged in a Medicare campaign designed to frighten and deceive senior citizens about the Republican plan.

Instead of coming forth with a bill to end welfare as we know it, as the President promised when he ran for President, the President remains silent throughout the welfare debate. Instead of delivering on a middle-class tax cut, as he also promised when he ran for President, and it is interesting that Candidate Clinton said one thing and President Clinton did another thing although, but instead of delivering on a middle-class tax cut as he promised during his Presidential campaign, the President pushed through the biggest tax increase in history, a tax increase that the President has recently admitted was a mistake. In fact, he said down in Houston at a fund raiser:

Probably there are people in this room still mad at me for that budget because you think I raised your taxes too much, and it might surprise you to know that I think I raised them too much, too.

That is what the President said. But, characteristically, the President blamed someone else for his own mistake, in this case the Republican Party in the Congress, which voted unanimously against the Clinton Democratic tax increase.

So, Mr. Speaker, at a time when Americans are embracing the value of personal responsibility, what does the President do but blame everyone else for his own lack of leadership?

Well, Mr. Speaker, Republicans in this Congress are different. We are keeping our promises, and we are stepping up to the Nation's challenges. No more excuses, no more Washington gimmicks, no more blame game. Republicans are providing the leadership that President Clinton promised but which, unfortunately, he lacks, the leadership that America needs.

It took less than a year for us Republicans to accomplish what President Clinton, in the most powerful office in the world, the most powerful political office, could not deliver in 3 years. In fact, just last week, we passed historic landmark legislation which balances the Federal budget for the first time in 26 years. We actually balanced the budget by the year 2002 by limiting the increase, not the decrease, the increase in Federal spending to approximately 3 percent per year between now and 2002.

Second, we preserve and we protect and strengthen Medicare while allowing Medicare spending to increase for every senior every year. The increase in California, where I come from, is from \$5,000 per Medicare beneficiary today to \$8,000 per Medicare beneficiary in the year 2002. In fact, over that 7-year period, we plan to spend an aggregate of \$50,000 per Medicare beneficiary in California.

Third, genuine welfare reform that requires work, that emphasizes the family, and gives people hope for the future.

Last and very importantly, tax cuts for families and for economic growth

and job creation in the private sector which gives us most of our new, good-paying jobs.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the President to follow the Republicans' lead, do the right thing for America's future and support a budget, our budget, that truly reflects America's values.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2492. An act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1382. An act to extend the Middle East Peace Facilitation Act.

THE HORRIBLE TRUTH ABOUT TAXES IN LIGHT OF BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION PROCESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from New York [Mr. OWENS] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, the budget and appropriation process is behind schedule. I think that it has seldom been as far behind as it is now. But, as we all know, it is moving, and the critical high point is about to arrive. The negotiations between the Democratic President and the Republican-controlled Congress will mark the high point of this whole process.

Already there have been preliminary negotiations, I understand, at the White House; and we are beginning to enter that process. I think it is important at this point to take stock of where we are and to have the American people understand their vital role in this process.

I would like to, first, congratulate the American people, because the polls show that American common sense is again on target. American common sense, despite all the confusion, the double talk, the contradictions, the obfuscation, the diversions, despite it all, the American people understand basically what is going on; and their common sense has prevailed, and we have to listen to it.

According to the Wall Street Journal, 61 percent of the people want the President to veto the Republican budget. Yes, the Republican budget produced by this House of Representatives and the Senate, both controlled by Republican majorities, 61 percent of the American people, according to the Wall Street Journal, want the President to veto that budget. Thirty-two percent said it is OK.

Seventy-three percent of the American people prefer smaller Medicare

and education cuts, and they prefer a 10-year budget, according to the Wall Street Journal. Seventy-three percent prefer a 10-year budget and smaller cuts. Only 22 percent would go with a 7-year budget and the deep cuts that are proposed by the Republican majority.

Common sense is on target. Congratulations, American people, congratulations to democracy.

When the decisionmakers and the people who are locked into the closets of Washington lose their way and cannot understand the obvious, the American people can bring them back to reality.

Yes, the American people are on target right now, but I fear, as we move closer and closer to the climactic point of this whole process of budget and appropriations that there is going to be more attempt to confuse the American people. There will be more obfuscation and more diversions thrown at the American people.

So we have to be careful. Contradictions will be rampant. There will be a refusal to acknowledge certain things, like they will not acknowledge the horrible truth about taxes in America.

I believe we should have a tax cut. I believe American individuals and families, certainly those making \$50,000 or less, must have a tax cut. It is only fair, because they have been swindled, they have been swindled since 1943 by having the great shift in the proportion of the revenue burden borne by individuals and families versus corporations.

That is my chart that always brings because there is no truth more fundamental, no truth more important than the truth of this chart, which shows how the tax burden shifted from American corporations to American individuals and families.

Herein lies the solution to the problem of the deficit, herein, lies the solution to the problem of a balanced budget, and herein lies the solution to the problem of giving some relief to the American people who have borne such high taxes for so many years.

There might have been a justification during the era when we were fighting the cold war. So the American people made sacrifices. They bore the high taxes. The cold war is over now. There is no reason to continue, and there certainly is no reason why you had the shift which is so dramatic from the corporate world bearing the great portion of the tax burden to a situation now where the corporate world bears a very tiny portion of it and individuals and families are forced to bear most of it.

I will come back to that, but that is one of those acknowledgments, one of the pieces of truth that both the White House and the Republican-controlled Congress refuse to acknowledge. We are going to have negotiations at the White House, and I certainly support my Democratic President. I am glad that you have the President there instead of a Republican President. We are